

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 and 14-37 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 12 and 13 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 10, 14, 15 and 17 are amended and new claims 24-37 are added.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Office Action's indication that claims 1-9 and 23 are allowed and that claims 15-21 contain allowable subject matter.

The Office Action rejects claims 10-11 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) by U.S. Patent 6,281,988 to Leung. The Office Action also rejects claims 12-14 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Leung in view of U.S. Patent 5,966,669 to Kenmochi et al. (hereafter Kenmochi). The rejections are respectfully traversed with respect to the pending claims.

Independent claim 10 recites an interface unit, a first CODEC unit coupled to the interface unit, a second CODEC unit coupled to the first CODEC unit, a signal processor coupled to receive a signal from the second CODEC unit and a Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA) signal processor. The first CODEC unit and the second CODEC unit were previously recited in dependent claim 15, which is indicated in the Office Action as containing allowable subject matter.

Leung and Kenmochi do not teach or suggest all of the features of independent claim 10. That is, the Office Action admits that Leung does not disclose a CODEC unit communicatively coupled to the interface unit and the signal processor. The Office Action relies on Kenmochi as disclosing a CODEC device inside baseband unit 2-9 (and discussed at col. 7, lines 38-42).

However, Kenmochi does not teach or suggest a first CODEC unit coupled to the interface unit and a second CODEC unit coupled to the first CODEC unit in combination with the other missing features of claim 10. Furthermore, Kenmochi has no need for a first CODEC unit and a second CODEC unit. Thus, there is no suggestion for all the features of independent claim 10. Independent claim 10 therefore defines patentable subject matter.

Each of independent claims 24 and 31 define patentable subject matter by reciting specific features that are not taught or suggested by the applied references. For example, the applied references do not teach or suggest the claimed interface unit, facsimile signal processor, CDMA signal processor and frequency unit as separately recited in each of independent claims 24 and 31. Thus, each of independent claims 24 and 31 define patentable subject matter.

For at least these reasons, each of claims 10, 24 and 31 define patentable subject matter. Claims 11, 14, 15, 22, 36 and 37 depend from claim 10, claims 25-30 depend from claim 24 and claims 32-35 depend from claim 31 and therefore define patentable subject matter at least for this reason. In addition, each of the dependent claims contains features that further and independently distinguish over the applied references.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-11 and 14-37 are earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the

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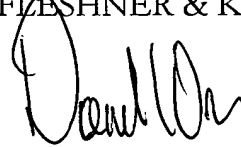
Docket No. K-164

Reply to Office Action of March 26, 2004

application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney, **David C. Oren** at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
FLESHNER & KIM, LLP



Daniel Y.J. Kim
Registration No. 36,186
David C. Oren
Registration No. 38,694

P.O. Box 221200
Chantilly, Virginia 20153-1200
703 766-3701 DYK/DCO:cre/kah

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Please direct all correspondence to Customer Number 34610